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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Attorney Docket No. KAK-004

In re patent application of

Hiroaki KITANO et al.

Confirmation No. 5012

Serial No. 10/018,571

Group Art Unit: unassigned

Filed: December 20, 2001

Examiner: unassigned

Title: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR NETWORK INFERENCE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

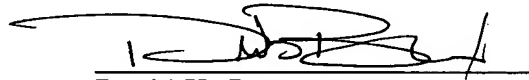
The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

**Concise Explanation of Relevancy of the Document**

(Fill out if no English translation, partial translation or English abstract is available)

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)). If, however, a first Office Action on the merits is issued, please charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 for payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 25, 2002

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Atty. Docket No.		Serial No.	
				KAK-004		PCT/JP99/04084	
				Applicant Hiroaki KITANO et al.			
				Filing Date December 20, 2001		Group Unassigned	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes      No
	A1	90/115683	10/1990	WO			x
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Page, Etc.)</b>							
	A2	Tetsushi YATA et al., "Kakura Markov Model to Identeki Algorithm ni yoru NDA hairetsu no Signal Pattern Chuushitsu", Vol. 37, No.6, pp.1117-1129, Transactions of Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSI) (06/1996)					
	A3	John Yen et al., "A Hybrid Approach to Modeling Metabolic Systems using a Genetic Algorithm and Simplex Method", Vol. 28, No. 2, pp.173-191, IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON SYSTEMS, MAN, AND CYBERNETICS PART B: cYBERNETICS (04/1998)					
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>							

Form PTO-FB-A820  
(also form PTO-1449)

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